

REMARKS

The Final Office Action dated June 16, 2009 has been reviewed and carefully considered. Claims 1 -11 remain present in the application. Claims 1 and 11 are the only independent claims. Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the following remarks, is respectfully requested.

Claim 12 is objected to because of informalities. In particular, that claim 12 should have been numbered as claim 11. Claim 12 has been renumbered to Claim 11. Applicants request removal of the objection.

Claims 1-11, as renumbered, stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Medioni et al., US 7,103,211 (Hereinafter, “Medioni”). Applicants respectfully traverse.

Claim 1 recites the limitations of: “a) acquiring at least one image of said 3-D scene using less than three cameras, b) acquiring partial depth map from said at least one image, c) acquiring derivates of depth information from said at least one image, d) extending said partial depth map by adding non-relevant information to said partial depth map, creating a pixel dense full depth map being spatially consistent with both said partial depth map and said derivates of depth information.”

As noted in the Office Action, Medioni disclosed a method for generating 3D face models from one camera. The Final Office Action submits that the limitation of acquiring partial depth map step from said at least one image of claim 1 is taught by Medioni’s in col. 7, lines 8-10; Fig. 1. Applicants respectfully disagree. Although Medioni teaches the use of one camera, clearly, this feature of Medioni significantly differs from the invention as defined by claim 1 where a partial depth map is acquired

from *an image* and not a *sequence of image frames of a head in motion* (i.g. moved from one direction to another).

The Final Office Action submits that the limitation of acquiring partial depth map from said at least one image of claim 1 is taught by Medioni's in col. 5, lines 13-32. Applicants respectfully disagree. In this section, Medioni again teaches that two adjacent view of the *sequence of image frames of a head in motion* are used as part of a two step-stage process, and acquiring the partial depth map from one image, as claimed.

A claim is anticipated only if each and every element recited therein is expressly or inherently described in a single prior art reference. Medioni cannot be said to anticipate the present invention, because Medioni fails to disclose each and every element recited. As shown, Medioni, *inter alia*, fails to disclose a method for acquiring a substantially complete depth map from a 3-D scene which comprises the steps of a) acquiring at least one image of said 3-D scene using less than three cameras, and b) acquiring partial depth map from said at least one image.

Having shown that Medioni fails to disclose each and every element claimed, applicant submits that claims 1 and 11 are allowable over Medioni. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration, withdrawal of the rejection and allowance of claim 1 and 11.

With regard to claims 2-10, these claims ultimately depend from claim 1, which has been shown to be not anticipated and allowable in view of the cited references. Accordingly, 2-10 are also allowable by virtue of their dependence from an allowable base claim. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of

the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

For all the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all the present claims are patentable in view of the cited references. Entry of this amendment and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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